

BLM invites local participation in economic strategies workshop
Input will help shape Grand Staircase-Escalante planning effort

KANAB, Utah – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will host a public economic strategies workshop May 31 as part of ongoing planning efforts for Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and the lands excluded from the Monument.

The BLM is committed to facilitating economic opportunities on public lands to create jobs and help local communities grow. The workshop provides an opportunity for local government officials, community leaders, business owners and citizens to provide input on economic and social goals for the local community, and to discuss regional economic conditions, trends, and strategies with the BLM.

The BLM is preparing draft management plans and their associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which are expected to be released for public review later this summer. The socioeconomic information discussed at the workshop will be considered by the BLM as it develops these plans.

The workshop is scheduled for May 31 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the BLM Administrative Building, located at 669 South Highway 89A, in Kanab. The public may participate in the meeting online via MyMeetings.com, at <https://bit.ly/2wSksfS>. No passcode is required. A telephone conference line will also be available for the public by dialing 866-794-6762 and using passcode 3142202.

Comments from the public can be submitted during the workshop or sent to: BLM_UT_CCD_monuments@blm.gov by close of business on June 8.

Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

Please contact Larry Crutchfield at 435-691-4310 if you have any additional questions. The public can follow the progress of the GSENM planning process at <https://goo.gl/EHvhbc>.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$75 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2016—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 372,000 jobs.

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